

The Board of County Commissioners convened in special session on this Monday, August 17, 2009, at Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida, with the following members present to wit: Richard Hoffman, District No. 1; Douglas Gilpin, Vice Chairman, District No. 2; Don Burgess, District No. 3; Garry Breeden, Chairman, District No. 4; and Randy Mask, 2nd Vice Chairman, District No. 5. The following individuals were also present and acting in their respective official capacities: Bradley Arnold, County Administrator; John Lege, Finance Director; Connie Webb, Deputy Clerk; and Derrill L. McAteer of The Hogan Law Firm, Attorneys for the Board.

The following individuals were present representing the City of Bushnell: Mayor Joe Strickland, Councilman Billy Williams, Councilman Dale Swain, City Manager Vince Ruano, City Clerk Joy Coleman, and City Attorney Felix Adams.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Breeden. The primary purpose of this Joint Meeting with the City of Bushnell was to discuss Sumter County vs. Nova Group Services, LLC et al., Sumter County Circuit Court Case Number 2009-CA-000159, as required by Chapter 164, Florida Statutes. Proof of Publication, as advertised, filed herewith.

Bradley Arnold, County Administrator, explained that this meeting was being held as required by Section 164.1055, Florida Statutes, which allows the County to follow through with the filed complaint associated with fire services. The two issues are fire inspections and fire plan review. The City of Bushnell has indicated that fire plan review is the main issue of discussion. The next step in resolving this issue will be mediation. The County's position is to provide protection for the County as well as the Fire Chief.

Derrill McAteer, Attorney for the Board, noted that section 164.1055 states that "... the governing bodies of the primary conflicting governmental entities shall: (a) Consider the statement of issues prepared in the conflict assessment phase." A complaint has been filed which is the statement of the issues. The statement of issue is the Agreement between Sumter County and the City of Bushnell as to fire service. There is an interlocal agreement wherein Sumter County took over fire service for the City. The County is basically asking the judge to determine if fire plan review and fire inspection fall under fire service in the interlocal agreement.

During discussion it was determined that the City of Bushnell's intent is to pursue the litigation and remain with Nova.

City Attorney Felix Adams and Board Attorney Derrill McAteer are in agreement that a good faith meeting has been held as required by statute.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.